

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 2, line 11, to page 3, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:

In some such embodiments, content is updated with one or more `[[html]]` HTML link(s). This existing content may reside on a highly trafficked portal, such as a web portal, and may be encoded in a markup language, such as Hyper Text Markup Language (HTML). The Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) corresponding to the one or more links resolve to the server from which the statistics are to be measured, i.e., the server which connects to the end user over the desired path. In some embodiments, this resolution may be based on an explicit relationship between a URL and a given measurement path. In alternative embodiments, the one or more URLs may resolve to an address which varies on each invocation, such that only the address, rather than the URL, connotes a relationship with the specific measurement path. A request for the connection comes into the server, and based on the target address, the outbound response is subsequently forced to a specific measurement path. In some embodiments of the invention, the actual content supplied by the server is minimized, in order to preserve bandwidth. In some embodiments, the content may be visually imperceptible, comprising one or more pixels, which may be transparent. In other embodiments, the content may comprise a visual artifact.

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 3-13, with the following amended paragraph:

Some embodiments of the invention include systems and methods to maximize traffic through a desired path, in order to generate a robust number of measurements of round trip times through the path. These embodiments are illustrated schematically in Figure 1. The method generates traffic towards an end user 102, or surfer. An internetwork 100 includes a measured server 104, which is the server from which traffic is to be measured, and a highly trafficked portal 106. The highly trafficked portal 106 may include content from a popular commercial web site. The measured server 104 and the end user 102 can communicate via the internetwork through one or more paths 108. Some embodiments attempt to divert traffic from the portal 106 to the measured server 104, in order to ensure robust measurements of network performance along the one or more paths 108.

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, lines 11-24, with the following amended paragraph:

In some embodiments of the invention, a measurements listener receives values of RTT_1 , RTT_2 , and RTT_3 that correspond to a given IP address. In some embodiments, the measurements listener may comprise one or more processes distributed on one or more servers coupled to the internetwork. These measurements are sent to a module that performs one or more of the following steps:

- Compute the values of round-trip time d , jitter v , and packet loss p for this measurement instance.
- Map the IP address to a corresponding group of IP addresses (this group may comprise an Equivalence Class, ~~which is further described in which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety~~).
- Update the values of \hat{d} , \hat{v} , \hat{p} , using old values of \hat{d} , \hat{v} , \hat{p} and the values of d , v , and p , wherein \hat{d} , \hat{v} , \hat{p} comprise weighted averages of delay, jitter, and loss, respectively).